

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USNATO 04473 031904Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----010083 031907Z /50  
O 031821Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1271  
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 04473

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PGOV, PO  
SUBJECT: CALL ON THE PRESIDENT BY PRESIDENT EANES OF  
PORTUGAL

1. PORTUGUESE PERMREP SPOKE TO ME ON "PERSONAL" BASIS  
REGARDING PROBLEM WHICH HAS ARISEN WITH RESPECT TO  
PRESIDENT EANES' PLANNED VISIT TO WASHINGTON FOR NATO  
SUMMIT. ACCORDING TO FREITAS CRUZ, PRESIDENT EANES IS  
NOW CONSIDERING CALLING OFF ATTENDANCE AT WASHINGTON  
SUMMIT AFTER HAVING BEEN ADVISED IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE  
FOR HIM TO HAVE A PERSONAL MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER.

2. FREITAS CRUZ SAID HE REALIZED THAT TWO PRESIDENTS  
WOULD BE MEETING SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE TWO-DAY SUMMIT  
IN WASHINGTON BUT EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE FOR EANES'  
DOMESTIC POSITION IN THAT HE BE SEEN AT HOME TO BE  
RECEIVED ALONE BY US PRESIDENT. EVEN A FIFTEEN-MINUTE  
VISIT WOULD BE ENOUGH FOR EANES' PURPOSES. FAILURE OF  
EANES TO BE RECEIVED PERSONALLY BY US PRESIDENT WOULD BE  
EXPLOITED BY PORTUGUESE OPPOSITION AT HOME ON BOTH LEFT  
AND RIGHT TO WEAKEN EANES' STATURE BY SHOWING THAT HE LACKED  
STANDING ABROAD OR WAS POORLY REGARDED BY HIS US ALLY.  
THIS WOULD BE DAMAGING TO EANES IN PRESENT TROUBLED  
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POLITICAL SITUATION IN LISBON, AND EANES WAS ACCORDINGLY  
CONSIDERING FORGOING ATTENDANCE AT NATO SUMMIT.

3. IN RESPONSE TO FREITAS'S REQUEST, I SAID I WOULD  
INQUIRE ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A BRIEF PRIVATE  
MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS.

4. COMMENT: AS A FORMER AMBASSADOR TO LISBON, I CAN UNDERSTAND THE PORTUGUESE CONCERN. PORTUGUESE ARE STICKLERS ON MATTERS OF PERSONAL PRESTIGE. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT IF PORTUGUESE CHIEF OF STATE CAME TO WASHINGTON AND WERE NOT RECEIVED FOR EVEN A BRIEF PERSONAL CALL BY OUR PRESIDENT, HE WOULD SUFFER BOTH POLITICAL AND PERSONAL EMBARRASSMENT AT HOME AND THE MATTER WOULD BE EXPLOITED BY OPPOSITION FORCES. GIVEN THE UNSTABLE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IN PORTUGAL, THAT WOULD HARDLY SEEM TO BE IN US INTEREST.

5. EMBASSY LISBON MAY WISH TO COMMENT. BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CALL ON THE PRESIDENT BY PRESIDENT EANES OF PORTUGAL  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PEPR, PO, US, (EANES, ANTONIO DOS SANTOS RAMALHO), (CARTER, JIMMY),  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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